

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated May 11, 2007. In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 2-4 and 10 are under consideration in this application. Claims 5-6 and 9 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Allowed Subject Matter

Claims 2-4 and 10 were allowed.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by US Pub. No. 2002/0132385 A1 of Dojo (hereinafter "Dojo"). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dojo '385 in view of Ono et al. (US Patent No. 6,356,331 B1) and Ono et al. (US Application No. 2002/0047970 A1).

Since claims 5-6 and 9 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, the rejections thus become moot.

Conclusion

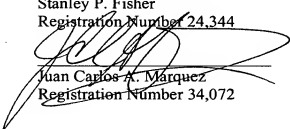
In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely. Applicants respectfully contend that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the

above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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